

OHNISHI**Application No. 09/809,095****Response to Office Action dated November 24, 2003****Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of the Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An operation method for processing data ~~file~~ files, comprising ~~the steps of:~~

(a) displaying for each of one or more data files a reduced-size image/file icon pair wherein the a reduced-size image is for use in identifying the contents of the a data file[,] and a the corresponding file icon is spaced at a predetermined interval from the associated with said reduced-size image in pair at a predetermined interval between them, the said file icon having a smaller area than the said reduced-size image; and

(b) performing at least either one of the operations of i) selecting a function to be applied to the said data file and ii) changing a display position of the said reduced-size image by a drag-and-drop operation on the said file icon.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The operation method for processing data files ~~file~~ as set forth in claim 1, wherein:

in ~~said~~ step (b), the reduced-size image is fixed at a current position while a drag operation on the said file icon is being performed at a predetermined speed or higher; and on the other hand, when the drag speed is reduced below the predetermined speed, a frame having the in size of the reduced size image is displayed.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The operation method for processing data files ~~file~~ as set forth in claim 1, wherein:

in ~~said~~ step (b), when the said file icon is dropped at a position where no any function icon representing a kind of a function to be applied to the said data file is not displayed, a display position of the corresponding reduced-size image is changed by moving the corresponding

OHNISHI**Application No. 09/809,095****Response to Office Action dated November 24, 2003**

reduced-size image to a position at a predetermined interval from a dropped portion of the said file icon.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The operation method for processing data files ~~file~~ as set forth in claim 3, wherein:

the said reduced-size image is displayed in an area on the opposite side of a moving region of the file icon where the file icon is moved to a display position of a function icon.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The operation method for processing data files ~~file~~ as set forth in claim 1, wherein:

in said step (b), when the file icon has moved to a position more than a predetermined distance apart from the corresponding reduced-size image, an icon return space is displayed at or in a proximity to of the original display position of the file icon, at a predetermined fixed interval from the reduced-size image.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The operation method for processing data files ~~file~~ as set forth in claim 5, wherein:

in said step (b), when the said file icon is dropped in the said icon return space, the said file icon is moved back to its original display position without moving the associated reduced-size image.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The operation method for processing data files ~~file~~ as set forth in claim 5, wherein:

the said icon return space is formed in an outstanding pattern.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The operation method for processing data files ~~file~~ as set forth in claim 5, wherein:

the said icon return space is larger in size than the said file icon.

OHNISHI**Application No. 09/809,095****Response to Office Action dated November 24, 2003**

Claim 9 (New): The operation method for processing data files as set forth in claim 1, wherein:

a function icon is displayed with substantially the same size as the file icon when the file icon is displayed.

Claim 10 (New): The operation method for processing data files as set forth in claim 1, wherein:

a display of one or both of a function icon and an icon return space is changed when the file icon overlaps the function icon when the file icon is dragged.

Claim 11 (New): The operation method for processing data files as set forth in claim 1, wherein:

the icon return space is displayed in a different manner than the file icon when the file icon has moved to a position at a predetermined position from an original position.

Claim 12 (New): The operation method for processing data files as set forth in claim 1, wherein:

the file icon is displayed at positions in proximity of the reduced-size image.

Claim 13 (New): A method comprising:

generating a display for a data file that comprises a reduced-size image and a corresponding file icon, wherein the reduced-size image permits an identification of the contents of the data file and the file icon is smaller than, and disposed in a predetermined relationship relative to, the reduced-sized image;

moving the reduced-sized image from an original display position in response to user inputs supplied via an input device for moving the file icon from an original display position to another display position; and

processing the data file in accordance with a function in response to user inputs supplied via the input device for moving the file icon from an original display position to a function-invoking position on the display that invokes the function.

OHNISHI**Application No. 09/809,095****Response to Office Action dated November 24, 2003**

Claim 14 (New): The method according to claim 13, wherein the user inputs for moving the file icon from its original display position to another display position comprise inputs for dragging-and-dropping the file icon.

Claim 15 (New): The method according to claim 14, wherein the reduced-size image is moved from its original position to a position adjacent to the position at which the file icon is dropped.

Claim 16 (New): The method according to claim 13, further comprising:
displaying a file icon return space when the file icon is moved more than a predetermined distance from the reduced-size image.

Claim 17 (New): The method according to claim 16, further comprising:
returning the file icon back to its original display position if the file icon is moved to the file icon return space.

Claim 18 (New): The method according to claim 16, wherein the file icon return space has a larger area than the file icon.

Claim 19 (New): The method according to claim 13, wherein a frame representing the reduced-size image moves with the file icon if the file icon is moved at a speed less than a predetermined speed and the reduced-size image remains in its original position if the file icon is moved at a speed greater than the predetermined speed.

Claim 20 (New): The method according to claim 13, wherein the user inputs for moving the file icon to the function-invoking position comprise inputs for dragging-and-dropping the file icon onto one of one of more function icons.

OHNISHI**Application No. 09/809,095****Response to Office Action dated November 24, 2003**

Claim 21 (New): The method according to claim 20, wherein the one or more function icons have substantially the same size as the file icons.

Claim 22 (New): The method according to claim 20, wherein the file icon is disposed relative to the reduced-size image so that the file icon is between the function icons and the reduced-sized image.

Claim 23 (New): The method according to claim 13, wherein the function in accordance with which the data file is processed is selected from the group consisting of a printing function, a facsimile function, and an e-mail function.

Claim 24 (New): An image processing system comprising:
a user input device; and

a processing system for generating a display for a data file that comprises a reduced-size image that permits an identification of the contents of the data file and a file icon that is smaller than, and disposed in a predetermined relationship relative to, the reduced-size image,

wherein the processing system moves the reduced-sized image from an original display position in response to user inputs supplied via the input device for moving the file icon from an original display position to another display position, and

wherein the processing system processes the data file in accordance with a function in response to user inputs supplied via the input device for moving the file icon from an original display position to a function-invoking position on the display that invokes the function.

Claim 25 (New): A storage device for storing executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

generating a display comprising a reduced-size image and a corresponding file icon for each of a plurality of data files, wherein the reduced-size image for each data file permits an identification of the contents of the data file and the file icon for each data file is smaller than, and disposed in a predetermined relationship relative to, the reduced-sized image to which the file icon corresponds;

OHNISHI**Application No. 09/809,095****Response to Office Action dated November 24, 2003**

A16 moving one of the reduced-sized images from an original display position in response to user inputs supplied via an input device for moving the file icon corresponding to that reduced-size image from an original display position to another display position; and

processing one of the data files in accordance with a function in response to user inputs supplied via the input device for moving the file icon corresponding to that data file from an original display position to a function-invoking position on the display that invokes the function.
